

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-09 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-14 NSC-10 DODE-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 OIC-04

NASA-04 OST-04 SCI-06 RSR-01 NIC-01 AF-10 ARA-11

EA-11 /197 W

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R 141700 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9351

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 2773

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1294

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE (WDC)

REF: USNATO 1222

SUMMARY: FRENCH REP ADVISED POLADS MARCH 13 OF SOVIET DEMARCHE ON WDC AND GAVE RUN- DOWN ON FRENCH REPLY, WHICH NOW UNDER PREPARATION. US REP DREW ON STATE 44832 AND SUGGESTED THAT OTHER ALLIES MIGHT ALSO WISH CONSIDER APPROACHES TO UN SECRETARIAT. SEVERAL OTHER REPS REPORTED ON SOVIET DEMARCHES. SUBJECT WILL REMAIN ON AGENDA FOR AT LEAST ONE MORE WEEK TO ALLOW RESPONSES TO US SUGGESTION. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH REP ADVISED THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV RECENTLY CALLED ON STATE SECRETARY BETTENCOURT AND MADE DEMARCHE, LEAVING AIDE MEMOIRE, ALONG LINES THOSE MADE ON OTHER ALLIES. BATTENCOURT DID NOT RESPOND TO SUBSTANCE OF DEMARCHE AT THAT TIME, AND FRENCH REP SAID REPLY TO SOVIET AIDE MEMOIRE
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NOW UNDER PREPARATION IN QUAI. FRENCH REPLY WILL MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) FRANCE UNDERSTANDS USSR VIEWS ON SUBJECT OF WDC;

B) HOWEVER, BASIC FRENCH POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT HAS NOT CHANGED AND PARIS STILL SEES NO UTILITY IN WDC; C) FRANCE WILL NOT OPPOSE CALLING OF STUDY COMMITTEE AND MAINTENANCE EMPTY CHAIR FOR FRANCE; AND D) DESPITE FRENCH ACQUIESCENCE IN MEETING OF STUDY COMMITTEE, FRANCE CONTINUES BELIEVE THAT MEETING OF WDC SENSELESS WITHOUT PARTICIPATION OF ALL FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS.

2. US REP DREW ON STATE 44832 - AND SUGGESTED THAT WHILE THERE WAS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER SOVIETS MIGHT IN EFFECT MIS- REPRESENT ALLIED REPLIES TO LATEST ROUND OF DEMARCHES, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR ALLIES TO TOUCH BASE WITH UNSYG AND MAKE THEIR POSITIONS CLEAR. CHAIRMAN SAID SUBJECT WOULD REMAIN ON AGENDA TO ALLOW TIME FOR CONSIDERATION.

3. CANADIAN REP REPORTED SOVIET DEMARCHE TO CANADIAN CCD REP IN GENEVA, DURING WHICH CANADIAN REP MENTIONED OTTAWA'S KNOWN RESERVES ON CALLING STUDY COMMITTEE AT THIS TIME. CANADIAN CCD REP ALSO SUGGESTED TO SOVIET INTERLOCUTOR THAT MORE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WERE NEEDED BEFORE ANY DECISION TAKEN. US REP NOTED THAT SOVIETS HAD MADE FOUR DEMARCHES ON UK, IN MOSCOW, LONDON, NEW YORK, AND GENEVA. UK RESPONSE WAS SAME IN ALL PLACES, HE SAID, AND CONSISTED OF REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS POSITION WHICH HAD NOT CHANGED.
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